with other Central Nervous System depressants such as alcohol have been reported in other countries.

The "SCRIP" issue No. 978 dated the 4th March, 1985 has reported in the latest issue of Current problems (No. 14 of February 1985) from UK, CSM, had warned of the dangers of dextropropoxyphene related self poisoning and outlined precautionary measures to be considered by the doctors. According to the UK, CSM, "During the normal therapeutic use, dextropropoxyphene is rarely associated with serious adverse effects. However, when the therapeutic dose is exceeded the drug is extremely dangerous particularly in combination with alcohol and dextropropoxyphene is the commonest reported cause of drug induced death."

(e) To best of our knowledge, combination of analgesics with tranquillizers are being marketed in many countries including United Kingdom.

(f) to (h) As licences for manufacture and sale of formulation are granted by the State Drug Control Authorities, such combinations have been licensed to be manufactured and marketed by the respective State Drug Control Authorities long time back in consultation with medical experts.

Findings of U.S. Agency on Study of Arthritis Drugs

2392. SHRI NAND KISHORE BHATT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item appeared in the 'International Herald Tribune' of 30th December, 1983 under the caption "U.S. Agency to study arthritis drugs that a group links to 10,000 deaths"

(b) if so, the names of these arthritis drugs and whether these drugs are being marketed in our country;

(c) The names of the medicines based on these drugs being marketed in India;

(d) whether Government are aware of the findings of U.S. Agency;

(e) if so, what are the details thereof;

(f) whether there are substitutes available to these drugs; and

(g) if so, what are the reasons for not banning marketing of these drugs in our country?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) This Ministry has no information on the news item which had appeared in 'International Herald Tribune' of 30th December, 1983.

(b) to (g) Do not arise.

Ban on the Ergot Combination

2393. DR. JOSEPH LEON D' SOUZA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have banned the manufacture and sale of drugs in combination with Ergot;

(b) whether it is a fact that such combinations are dangerous and have adverse effects;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Migranil, Cafergot, Vasogrin and Migril belong to fixed combination with Ergot; and

(d) if so, the reasons for which these products are being allowed to be sold in the country and by when the sales will be withdrawn?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (d) This Ministry have issued a Notification prohibiting manufacture and sale of Fixed dose Combina-